Permission to motion pictures to operate in India

1313. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have agreed to permit the Motion Picture Export Association of America access to Indian market;

(b) whether it is also a fact that they are allowed to utilise the facilities of free foreign exchange repatriation of their profit earned out of it; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir. Only through agreements entered into with them from time to time.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, repatriation is allowed only upto a ceiling of US $ 700,000 in the first year of the 1988-91 agreement US $ 1,000,000 in the second year and US $ 1,400,000 in the final year.

Censorship on Newspapers Published from Chandigarh and Jalandhar

1314. SHRI N.E. BALARAM :
SHRI Z.A. AHMED :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that censorship was imposed on newspapers published from Chandigarh and Jalandhar in Punjab on the eve of the recent elections; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) The Government of Punjab have informed that they had not resorted to censorship during the period of elections by way of exercise of powers under the Punjab Special Powers (Press) Act. The press in Punjab and Chandigarh, particularly the vernacular press based at Jalandhar had increasingly become a source of propaganda and dis-information about the terrorist activities and threats given by the terrorists to boycott elections etc. In order to have fair and peaceful elections in the State of Punjab, Deputy Commissioners were requested to get in touch with the editors of all the leading newspapers and to prevail upon them not to pub'ish such subversive material. Deputy Commissioners were also requested to use their judgement to ensure that necessary action is taken purely on merits under Section 95 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The State Government have also informed that the democratic rights of the newspapers were not curtailed or stopped by them. However, Deputy Commissioners by stopping writings of subversive materials by the newspapers only exercised their duties under Section 95 of CRPC in order to ensure free, fair and peaceful elections in the State of Punjab. Some of the newspapers during the election period came out with blank spaces to protest against the actions of the Deputy Commissioners.

सवाई माधोपुर में दूरदर्शन के कार्यक्रमों की दृश्यमानता

1315. **डा० अबरार अहमद** : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को यह जानकारी है कि सवाई माधोपुर की जनता अभी भी